



# City of Milwaukee

## Meeting Minutes

200 E. Wells Street  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
53202

### CITY OF MILWAUKEE YOUTH COUNCIL

**MEMBERS:** *Andrew Ellis, Janay McClain-Kelly, Allison Schwartz, Keturah Chesser, Matthew Schotting, JoeRon Streeter, Michelle Jenkins, Arely Flores, Jade Robertson, Arlee Vang, Ann Kaiser, Nayeli Garcia, Matthew Preston, Maxwell Loos, Britell Higgins*

*Staff Assistant, Diana Morgan, 286-2231*

*Fax: (414) 286-3456, E-mail: [dmorga@milwaukee.gov](mailto:dmorga@milwaukee.gov)*

*File Specialist, Joanna Polanco, 286-3926, E-mail: [jpolan@milwaukee.gov](mailto:jpolan@milwaukee.gov)*

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Monday, February 27, 2006

5:00 PM

City Hall, Council Chambers

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### SPECIAL

The meeting was called to order at 5:07 p.m.

**Members PRESENT:** Ellis, Schwartz, Schotting, Flores, Robertson, Kaiser, Preston, Loos, Higgins and Vang

**Members EXCUSED:** None

**Members ABSENT:** McClain-Kelly, Chesser, Streeter, Jenkins, and Garcia

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

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**SPECIAL**

Discussion of resolutions relating to Common Council File #051314, a substitute ordinance relating to loitering by criminal gang members

Member Schotting moved approval of Member Preston's resolution relating to this file.

Member Preston moved to amend by inserting paragraph #2 from Member Vang's resolution to his resolution. There was no objection.

Member Kaiser moved to amend by deleting paragraphs #4 and #7.

On the motion to delete paragraph #4: FAIL, Member Kaiser voting AYE.

On the motion to delete paragraph #7: FAIL, Members Kaiser and Loos voting AYE

Member Schwartz to amend by adding paragraph #4 from Member Vang's resolution to Member Preston's resolution. There was no objection.

Member Flores moved to amend by changing the phrase "postpone passage of" to "reject"

On the motion: FAIL, Schwartz, Flores, Robertson and Vang AYE

On the motion to approve the file as amended: PASS, Kaiser NO.

The final version of the resolution reads as follows:

Whereas, Common Council File Number 051314 is a substitute ordinance relating to loitering by criminal gang members; and

Whereas, The City of Milwaukee Youth Council was created to serve and advance the interest of city of Milwaukee youth as a representative body in city government through a working partnership with the Common Council and the Mayor; and

Whereas, This ordinance directly affects the youth of Milwaukee; and

Whereas, Under the ordinance, innocent individuals who are talking with labeled "Criminal Gang Members" may be subject to prosecution and labeling as a "Criminal Gang Member"; and

Whereas, The "Designated Areas" called for in the ordinance would be rid of criminal gang activity and a non-designated area will be filled with criminal gang activity; and

Whereas, This proactive approach of law enforcement may lead to more police-on-civilian violence; and

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**SPECIAL**

Whereas, Under the ordinance, police officers are put in a position of deciding whether or not a young person is a gang member;

Whereas, The ordinance's definition of "gang loitering" requires a "reasonable person" to determine what sorts of behavior constitute membership in a gang; even though everyone's, including police officers', perceptions can be biased and lead to a misuse of power against citizens; and

Whereas, Spanish-speaking citizens who may not understand what it is they are doing wrong will be subject to prosecution under this ordinance; and

Whereas, Police officers do not have sufficient training in conflict resolution or non-violent approaches to conflict resolution to properly conduct certain procedures outlined in this ordinance; and

Whereas, It is a near certainty that the "hotspots" called for in the ordinance will be in the central city and result in the potential targeting of minorities in those areas; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the City of Milwaukee Youth Council, that the Youth Council expresses its opposition to Common Council File Number 051314; and, be it

Further Resolved, That the Common Council is strongly urged to draft a new version of this ordinance addressing all of the concerns set forth in this resolution; and, be it

Further Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Common Council prior to its February 28, 2006 meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Youth Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:11 p.m.